

To:

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NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY **EXAMINATION REPORT** 

(PCT Rule 71.1)

Date of mailing (day/month/year)

01.02.2005

Applicant's or agent's file reference

International application No.

PCT/BR 03/00167

multi-019

International filing date (day/month/year)

17.11.2003

Priority date (day/month/year)

25.11.2002

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

MULTIBRAS S.A. ELETRODOMESTICOS et al.

- 1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
- 2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
- 3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.

#### 4. REMINDER

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) (Article 39(1)) (see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

The applicant's attention is drawn to Article 33(5), which provides that the criteria of novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability described in Article 33(2) to (4) merely serve the purposes of international preliminary examination and that "any Contracting State may apply additional or different criteria for the purposes of deciding whether, in that State, the claimed inventions is patentable or not" (see also Article 27(5)). Such additional criteria may relate, for example, to exemptions from patentability, requirements for enabling disclosure, clarity and support for the claims.

Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:



**European Patent Office** D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465

**Authorized Officer** 

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# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY PCT

### INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference multi-019		FOR FURTHER AC	TION See Notification	Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
· ·	ination No	International filing date (	day/month/year)	Priority date (day/month/year)
ternational appl CT/BR 03/00		17.11.2003		25.11.2002
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	ent Classification (IPC) o	r both national classification a		
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<b>NULTIBRAS</b>	S.A. ELETRODOM	ESTICOS et al.		
<u> </u>				
	alienal proliminant f	vamination report has bee	n prepared by this	International Preliminary Examining
l his inter Authority	and is transmitted to	the applicant according to	Article 36.	
2. This REF	PORT consists of a to	tal of 5 sheets, including t	his cover sneet.	
☐ Thi	s report is also accor	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	sheets of the desc	ription, claims and/or drawings which have ng rectifications made before this Authority
These at			·	_
These at	nnexes consist of a to		··	
3. This rep	ort contains indication	ns relating to the following i		
3. This rep	ort contains indication  Basis of the opinion	ns relating to the following i	items:	
3. This rep I ⊠ II □	ort contains indication  Basis of the opinion	ns relating to the following i	items:	
3. This rep	ort contains indication  Basis of the opinion  Priority  Non-establishmen	ns relating to the following in the opinion with regard to wention	items: novelty, inventive s	step and industrial applicability
3. This rep I ⊠ II □	ort contains indication  Basis of the opinion  Priority  Non-establishmer  Lack of unity of in	ns relating to the following in the of opinion with regard to vention ent under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) vention	items: novelty, inventive s	
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## JC20 RePCT/PTO 18 MAY 2005

### INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/BR 03/00167

1.	Das	is of the report							
1.	With regard to the <b>elements</b> of the international application (Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)):								
	Des	scription, Pages		·					
	1-9		as originally filed						
	01.					•			
	Cla	ims, Numbers							
	1-14	4	as originally filed	. :					
	Dra	wings, Sheets				. •			
			as originally filed						
: :	1/6-	0/0	as originally filed			•			
2.	With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.								
	The	se elements were av	vailable or furnished to this	Authority in the foll	owing language:	, which is:			
	the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).								
		☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).							
3.			eotide and/or amino acid examination was carried o						
	☐ contained in the international application in written form.								
	☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.								
		☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.							
		☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.							
		The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.							
4.	The	amendments have	resulted in the cancellation	of:					
		the description,	pages:						

Nos.:

sheets:

the claims,

the drawings,

### INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY **EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No.

PCT/BR 03/00167

This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)). 5. 🗆

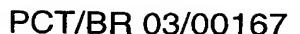
(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

- 6. Additional observations, if necessary:
- V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- 1. Statement

		Claims Claims	3-14 1,2
	Yes: No:	Claims Claims	4-8 3,914
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: No:	Claims Claims	1 -14

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet



**EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET** 

#### ITEM V:

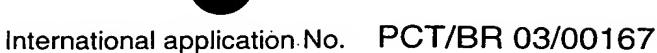
US-A-4 543 800 (figures, claims) discloses an electric supply system for the door 14 of refrigerators and freezers and other appliances comprising a cabinet (16) to which is articulated an end edge of a door 14 carrying an electronic control means, it comprises a connecting means (32,33, fig. 2,3,4,5) mounted to each region of the cabinet which is foreseen to receive and affix a respective hinge 20 (which in the present case is only a single region) provided with a tubular hinge pin 24; an auxiliary electric wiring connecting the connecting means with an internal electric circuit of the appliance; a duct (21) provided in the door (14) and having an inlet opened to the interior of the door and an outlet opened (at about 26) to the outside of the end edge of the door in a coaxial position in relation to that foreseen for mounting the hinge pin (see fig. 2) of a respective hinge (20), as a function of the opening directions foreseen for the door, a tubular bushing (25) provided at the outlet of the duct 21 receiving and bearing the hinge pin of the hinge; an electric wiring 22 mounted through the duct 21, from its inlet to its outlet and through the hinge pin of the hinge (fig. 2), in order to have an internal end connected with the electronic control means, and an external end electrically coupled to the connecting means 32,33 adjacent to the hinge (20, compare with present claim 1);

wherein further

the connecting means (32,33) is mounted inside a respective housing (fig. 3,4) provided on the face of the cabinet to which the hinge is affixed (compare with present claim 2)

US-A-4 671 582 (figures, claims) discloses an electric supply system for the door 20 of refrigerators and freezers and other appliances comprising a cabinet 16 to which is articulated an end edge of a door 20 carrying an electronic control means, it comprises a connecting means (90,190, fig. 9,5,13-15) mounted to each region of the cabinet which is foreseen to receive and affix a respective hinge (30, which in the present case comprises only several regions) provided with a tubular hinge pin (fig. 8, 62); an auxiliary electric wiring connecting the connecting means with an internal electric circuit of the appliance; a duct (no ref,. number, hollow interior of the dor shown in fig. 5) provided in the door 20 and having an inlet opened to the interior of the door and an outlet opened (at about 21) to the outside of the end edge of the door in a coaxial position in relation to that foreseen for mounting the hinge pin (see fig. 5) of a respective hinge, as a function of the opening directions foreseen for the door, a tubular bushing 21 is provided at the outlet of the duct receiving and bearing the hinge pin of the hinge; an electric wiring 50,52,54,118 is mounted through the duct in

### INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY **EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**



the door from its inlet to its outlet and through the hinge pin of the hinge (fig. 8), in order to have an internal end connected with the electronic control means and an external end electrically coupled to the connecting means 90,190 adjacent to the hinge (compare with present claim 1).

Said US-A-4 671 582 renders obvious the provision of two electrical connector housings on each side of the cabinet frame (see fig. 13, ref. numbers 90,190, compare with present claim 3), each located close to a respective side of the cabinet and housing a connecting means connected to the auxiliary electric wiring.

A duct for the electrical wires in the door in form of a groove defined in the end edge of the door with which the hinge cooperates, the inlet being defined at the bottom of the median region of the groove presenting widened opposite ends defining a pair of outlets, finds no example in the prior art and makes it easier to change the opening to the direction of the door (compare with present claim 4).

Claims 9 to 14 relate to usual constructional details.